

# WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY



**Canada Peas and Oats.**  
From Nansemond County: "I inclose an article from a catalogue in regard to Canada peas. What do you think of them? Are they any good for market purposes, and what do they yield? Would you suggest planting them with winter oats for a hay crop? I am glad to say that your suggestions given me in regard to planting peas and oats have been very helpful. I would like to use the oats, as no clover has been sown on this land. I will sow the oats in the fall here. Sometimes make a fair crop, but as a rule they are very uncertain. If the spring is late, wet and cool, they may do well, but usually they fail in the South more frequently than succeed. Sown with spring oats in the sections north of Pennsylvania they make a fine hay crop, but in your section vetch and oats will be far better as a fall sown crop. How late crimson clover can be sown will depend on the character of the late fall season. I once sowed crimson clover seed at Raleigh, N. C. the 1st of November, and had a good stand. But the fall was late and favorable. To-day I have a letter from a farmer in Eastern North Carolina, who says that he thinks we have been advising too early sowing of the crimson clover. He says that he succeeds in his section from sowing at any time from October 1 to December 1. I believe that in Nansemond you can be pretty sure of a stand from sowing in early October, but in the upper sections I would not sow later than early September. You can get the artificial culture Farmogram for inoculating the clover seed. But if the little gray-headed rabbit-foot clover grows on your land as it does where I live, the soil will be found well inoculated for crimson clover."

**Orchard Troubles.**  
From Clarke County: "I have an orchard of about 200 trees, mainly Yorks and Ben Davis. Until two years ago I had not gotten a full crop, though they had sixteen years old. In the spring of 1911, I had them dug around for a space of four feet each way from the trunk, and manured them that far. That fall I had a full crop, and the quality was as fine as any in this vicinity. Last fall I had nothing like a crop, and the few I had were of little account. Last spring I had the trees worked and manured a distance of six feet, and the rest of the ground plowed and planted to corn. I had a promise of a fine yield, but the late frost killed practically every apple."

"I had not plowed it before for six or seven years, and the brood sowing was taking possession in parts of the lot. Did I make a mistake in plowing or in putting it in a corn? The work was carefully done and the corn is light. What would you advise from now on? Should I sow crimson or clover among the trees? What is the best season for setting strawberries, spring or fall? I think that the first mistake you made was in imagining that you were feeding a sixteen-year tree by manuring a space of four feet around it. The feeding part of the roots of a tree and the fine fibres and root hairs near the trunk are the best of the roots, and these are out a little beyond where the limbs drip, and it is of more importance to manure there than around the trunk where there are very few feeding roots. Then, apple trees are apt to bear on alternate years, and the bearing year is carefully thinned. By regulating the crop in this way and improving its quality, you can get the trees more in the habit of annual fruiting. The plowing after years in sod did to some extent damage the roots that had gotten near the surface. But I think that a bearing orchard is best in sod, provided the sod is treated right. Planting corn was a damage to the trees by robbing them of moisture and food, and it is evident that they needed all the soil would afford. If the sod had been fertilized annually and the grass mown several times, and the out grass applied as a mulch under the trees there would have been different results. Manure is not bad, so far as the growth of the trees is concerned, but the making of fruit demands matter that the manure is rather deficient in, the phosphorus and potash. A good crop of apples will remove three times as much potash from the soil as a crop of wheat of twenty-five bushels an acre. To keep an orchard in a thrifty and productive condition demands annual top dressing of the soil. It pays as well to fertilize trees liberally as it does a crop of wheat or corn, and unless the fertility of the soil all over is maintained, there will be loss of growth and fruit. I would prepare the land well after getting the corn out and plow in all over the land except right up near the trees. Then, a mixture of 450 pounds of acid phosphate and 200 pounds of tankage or of cotton seed meal and 100 pounds of sulphate of potash an acre. Then seed the land down with a mixture of ten pounds of orchard grass, ten pounds of red top and ten pounds of meadow fescue an acre. Then mow the grass and leave it year two or three times and leave all the cut grass on the land, and every spring give the sod a top dressing of 300 pounds of raw bone meal an acre, and never make hay nor pasture in the orchard."

Then, if the trees get loaded with apples, it will pay to thin them. They will be just as many bushels and larger fruit, and you will have a better chance for a crop the next season. It pays well to fertilize an orchard every year, but put it where the feeding roots are, and then, in a sixteen-year-old orchard will be nearly all the soil between the rows. In regard to strawberries, I prefer here to plant in November, but in your section I believe that the early spring will be best."

**Nitrate of Soda.**  
From Sussex County: "Do you think that the continued use of nitrate of soda on corn would ultimately impoverish the soil? I think that the continued dependence on fertilizer alone, to make the corn crop, will tend to soil impoverishment. Applying nitrate of soda encourages a stronger growth of the plants, and hence a greater ability to draw on the natural resources of the soil. Depending on commercial fertilizer solely to make sale crops, and neglecting the improvement of the soil through a good rotation of crops and the maintenance and increase of the humus in the soil has brought poverty to soil and farmer all

over the South. And it has not been the fault of the fertilizer either, but of the way in which fertilizers have been used. The farmer who farms right will never need any nitrate of soda on his corn crop, for he will always have clover in his corn field for the corn, and can get more nitrogen free than he could afford to buy in a fertilizer. Buying nitrogen in any form for the corn crop is evidence of poor farming, and in your peanut country you will never need to buy nitrogen in any form if you farm in a proper rotation and use phosphate and potash liberally. With liberal use of phosphoric acid and potash, and an occasional liming, with the growing of peas and clover, the lands in your section can be brought to a high production without the purchase of an ounce of nitrogen in any form. If the roughage is fed on the farm and the manure returned to the land. This has been proved by scores of the best farmers. Fertilizers liberally used, and used in the proper place, can be made the best agents you can get for the improvement of the soil. Used as they have been, and still are being used all over the South, they result in soil impoverishment, and, as I have said, it is not the fault of the fertilizer, but of the farmer. Applying nitrate of soda year after year on a poor soil, to induce a stronger growth will certainly enable the crop to impoverish the land."

**A Nurse Crop With Alfalfa.**  
From Richmond: "Will you kindly advise me in sowing alfalfa with five pounds of red clover an acre. Will it be advisable to sow rye as a nurse crop at rate of 3-8 bushel an acre? I expect to sow thirty pounds of alfalfa and five pounds of red clover an acre. I wish to thank you for your excellent letters in The Times-Dispatch, which I read with great interest, and feel sure they are doing much good." In my experience I have found it best to sow alfalfa alone and not mixed with anything else. The early growth of alfalfa is rather slow and feeble, and any stronger growing plant with it will be a hindrance to the alfalfa. This is the main reason for sowing in the fall rather than spring, for the spring-sown alfalfa will have to fight for life with the vigorous weeds and the ever-present crab grass. Sown late in August or very early in September, I believe the sowing of thirty pounds an acre of alfalfa seed will be better, so far as the future of the alfalfa is concerned, than sowing anything else with it. Of course, if the sowing is to be temporary, and a general mixture of clover, alfalfa and other legumes is made, as Mr. Sandy has done in Nottingham, it is a different matter. But if you want to get the very best yield of alfalfa and keep it in mowing for several years, I would sow nothing but alfalfa seed, and would make sure that the seed is clean, especially of dodder."

**Pasture for Hogs.**  
"I want a pasture for hogs when crimson clover is not available, and after it is done, I can grow the clover all right, but want pasture for the hogs when the clover is not available. What will it be? You can sow now on good soil, well fertilized, a mixture of clover and rye, and let the hogs in your Tidewater section nearly through the winter, and (if you can turn on the clover. Then you can sow the rye again as early in spring as the soil can be worked good order, and can have a crop that will sustain the hogs for the winter. Then, by sowing patches of early and late cowpeas for a succession, you can keep the hogs foraging nearly all the time."

**Strawberries, etc.**  
From Washington, D. C.: "I am very anxious to plant a few hundred strawberry plants this month in an open lot near my house. I have prepared the ground, and I would like your readers, you totally fall in with my opinion. You have never told us how to protect our gardens from hail and mine has been completely riddled. Everything beaten to a frazzle." The strawberry plant growers who sell plants only from the open ground will not dig and ship them in summer, as they do not care to take any risk of their failure. But almost any of the leading seed houses in Philadelphia or New York will furnish you with strawberry plants grown in pots, and these can be set at any time. Of course, they cost more than plants from an open ground, but they live better and will make a full crop next spring. I would like very much to be able to protect my own grounds from hail. We have not had any for two years, but the last hailstorm we had broke a good deal of glass for me, and one of my neighbors lost 20,000 square feet of glass. I have a few outside by hail will often be mended by later growth, but broken glass never recovers."

**Scabby Potatoes.**  
"What causes Irish potatoes to get scabby, and how shall it be prevented? Scab in potatoes is caused by a fungus growth. It can be somewhat prevented by soaking the seed in a solution of formaldehyde. But if the soil is badly infected with the fungus this will not entirely prevent it. The best way is to always have a nurse crop like clover or rye to turn under for the potatoes. This causes some acidity in the soil, which is detrimental to the growth of the fungus. Lime, by sweetening the soil, and ashes, which have a large percentage of lime in them, will make conditions in the soil favorable to the fungus. Hence, it is always better to have some acidity in the soil for the potato crop where there is danger of scab."

**WEEK-END TRIPS CHEAP**  
Everybody will admit that the week-end rates offered by the Norfolk and Western between Richmond and the seashore are cheap. The fare to Norfolk is only \$2.00 for the round trip, more to Virginia Beach only 25 cents more. The tickets are valid for all trains Friday and Saturday, and are good for return trip until the following Monday.

(Advertisement.)  
**MADE FROM GOLD MEDAL FLOUR.**  
**FATMOR**  
RAISED FROM FLEISHMANN'S YEAST.

## WORK IS STARTED TO IMPROVE ROAD

When Completed Will Make Beautiful Driveway Around City of Fredericksburg.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Fredericksburg, Va., August 20.—City Commissioner R. Stuart Royer has commenced the work of improvement of the road leading from the city line to the Falmouth Bridge, across the Rappahannock River, about one mile above this city, and the road will be further extended around what is known as the Falls of the Rappahannock River connecting with the Cedar Lane Road, which is already improved. This will make one of the most beautiful driveways in this section of the country. The road between the city limits and the Falmouth Bridge is a connecting link between the Canada and Florida highway. Funds for improving the road have been contributed by the city of Fredericksburg, the Fredericksburg Automobile Association and by private subscriptions.

Notwithstanding the reports of serious injuries to the chestnut trees in this section of the country, the chestnut crop this year promises to be an unusually large one. At a public meeting of fishermen of Mathews County it was decided to present a petition to Congressman William A. Jones, asking him to take steps to present their share of the case to the War Department, and if possible to secure a revocation of the order which takes from the fishermen the power to set nets over certain depths in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

Rev. R. Aubrey Williams, D. D., pastor of the Baptist Church of this city, is this week preaching at a protracted meeting at Wallers Baptist Church, in Caroline County, of which Rev. J. S. Ryland is the pastor.

A few days ago Jesse Slacum, of Baltimore, aged six years, was instantly killed by the sudden discharge of a shot gun at the home of his aunt, Mrs. Richard Moore, in Northumberland County, where he was visiting. Jesse, with several other boys, were handling the gun when it accidentally discharged.

At the Confederate reunion held at Tappahannock in Essex County on the Rappahannock River on Friday under the auspices of Wright-Latane Camp, a very large crowd gathered and listened with great interest to Colonel R. E. Lee, Jr. of Fairfax, who was the orator of the occasion. Many Confederate veterans present had been members of the command of General W. H. F. Lee. It was an all-day affair, and a big free dinner was enjoyed. At the afternoon session interesting addresses were made by Rev. Geo. W. Beale, D. D., of Westmoreland, and Judge T. Claggett Jones, of King and Queen County. Stuart D. Williams, who spent about six weeks at the Students' Military Instruction Camp at Gettysburg, Pa., has returned home highly pleased with his experience at the camp. The work was interesting, instructive and healthful.

LuVert Graves, son of Lee J. Graves, has returned from Ohio, where he has been for the past several years, taking a course at the Ohio State University. He was also assistant horticulturist at the State Experiment Station at Wooster.

**MADE DAUGHTER OF REGIMENT.**

**Young Woman of Spotsylvania Honored by Massachusetts Association.**  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Fredericksburg, Va., August 20.—At the annual meeting a few days ago of the First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery Association, at Salem, Mass., Miss Katharine Waldvogel, of Spotsylvania County, near Fredericksburg, was elected a daughter of the regiment and a member of the Association.

This honor was conferred upon Miss Waldvogel for the reason that when the monument was erected by the survivors of this regiment, more than 100 survivors of the battle of Spotsylvania were present, with many members of their families. The First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery lost 398 officers and men in one hour on the Harris farm during the battle of Spotsylvania in the Civil War.

**LAD BREAKS HIS ARM.**

**Injured in Fall from Bicycle—Convict Makes Escape.**

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Amherst, Va., August 20.—Little Henry Hanger, nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Hanger, fell from a bicycle and broke his arm in two places. When the accident occurred he was riding behind a larger boy and lost his balance, falling on the hard ground with considerable force. He is improving nicely.

News has reached here of the escape from the camp, a few miles from this place, of one of the convicts. It is said that while the guard was asleep the prisoner freed himself of his shackles, stole the guard's watch and ran off. So far efforts to apprehend him have been unsuccessful.

**ACCEPTS CALL TO ILLINOIS.**

**Rev. Willis M. Cleveland to Give Up Mission Work in Virginia.**

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Stewardsville, Va., August 20.—Rev. Willis M. Cleveland, rector of Grace Episcopal Church, will relinquish the work here the first of September to accept charge of the Episcopal churches at Collinsville and Edwardsville, Ill., in the Diocese of Springfield. He preaches his last sermon in Greene County next Sunday night.

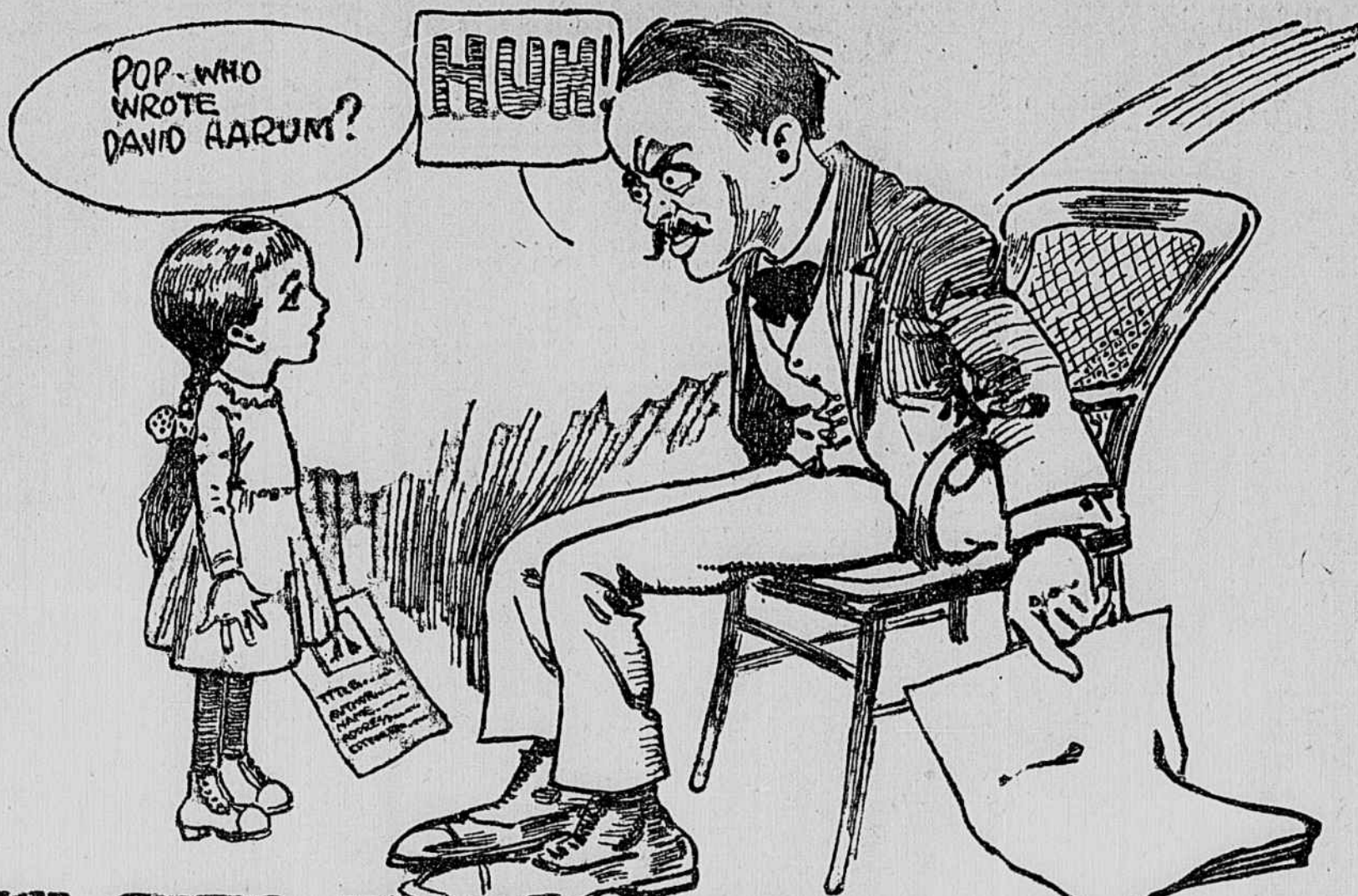
Mr. Cleveland has had charge of the Episcopal mission work in Greene County for the past six years, and the work along the Blue Ridge Mountains has grown since he has been in charge. He and family came here from the State of Maine, where he was formerly in the mission work. He is an able preacher, and has taken a great interest in the spiritual and educational development of the mountain people of this country.

**A Surprise Marriage.**

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Harrisonburg, Va., August 20.—Telling her mother that she was going on a visit to the famous Weyers Cave, Miss Geneva Whitesel, daughter of Mr. Annie Whitesel, went to Harrisonburg, where she and Aubrey Johnson, son of T. J. Johnson, a well-known merchant at Pleasant Valley, were married by Rev. J. H. Brunk. The couple resides at Pleasant Valley. The marriage was a great surprise.

**Barn Destroyed by Fire.**

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
Harrisonburg, Va., August 20.—Spontaneous combustion in a bin of oats set fire to a large barn on the place of Mrs. Mary Crawford, near Rockland Mills, causing its destruction. The loss is \$3,000, half covered by insurance in a local company.



## YOU SHOULD WORRY ~ GET A CATALOGUE

# You Can Solve To-Day's Booklovers' Picture If You Have a Catalogue

All the 77 correct titles to the 77 Booklovers' Contest pictures are in the catalogue waiting to be found. No book knowledge is necessary to win first prize. And you can start right now, getting all pictures to date FREE.

The catalogue supplies you with all that you need to successfully and easily solve all 77 puzzles in the Booklovers' Contest. It contains 5,000 book titles, among which are the 77 correct titles.

Gather the clues given you by every picture to its correct title, use your catalogue intelligently, and you can crack the hardest nut The Times-Dispatch serves you.

The first thirty-five pictures are given free with the catalogue. If you've missed them, nothing is lost, for you can get them with your catalogue.

The catalogue costs 35 cents, 40 cents by mail.

## The Times-Dispatch's Great \$1200.00 Gold Booklovers' Contest

Picture No. 26 Date, August 21st

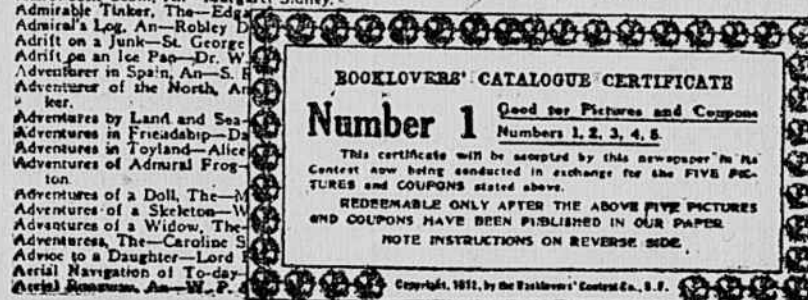


## What Book Does This Picture Represent? Write Title and Name of Author in Form Below

Title .....  
Author .....  
Your Name .....  
Street and Number .....  
City or Town .....  
TOTAL NUMBER OF PICTURES, 77. Contest began July 27th. Each day a different picture appears in this space. Cut them out. Save them until the last picture appears on October 11th. Don't send in partial lists. Wait until you have all the answers to the 77. Read Rules, Daily Story and Special Announcements in another part of this paper. It will help you win a prize. Extra pictures and coupons of any date that have appeared may be had at 2c. Enter to-day without registering your name. Merely Save Pictures and Coupons as they appear.

## CONTEST EDITOR'S ::::OFFICIAL:::: Booklovers' Catalogue

Here is a portion of one of the pages of the Catalogue, showing how the titles are listed in alphabetical order. One of the catalogue certificates, redeemable for five free pictures, is shown also. The 77 pictures which the 77 pictures represent are contained in this catalogue, and YOU can find them there.



## USE THIS ORDER BLANK FOR CATALOGUE

If you cut this order form, fill it out and send or bring it in with the sum designated, you will receive the Official Copyrighted Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles, and seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures in the contest. In the catalogue are all the correct titles to the seventy-seven pictures. Catalogues, 35 cents at this office, 40 cents by mail.

Do Not Send Stamps or Silver. Send Check or Money Order.

Booklovers' Contest Editor,  
The Times-Dispatch:  
Inclosed find 40 cents, for which send me a Booklovers' Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles and the seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures.  
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On the upper page you paste a picture. On the lower section you write from one to ten book titles which you have selected for the picture pasted above.

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Booklovers' Contest Editor, ..... 1913.  
The Times-Dispatch:  
Find herewith 80 cents (75 cents at office), for which deliver to me your Answer Book and six certificates, returnable as the pictures appear in the contest for Pictures Nos. 36 to 70.  
Name .....  
Street and No. ....  
City ..... State .....

Do not send stamps or silver. Send check or money order.

## ENTER THIS CONTEST TO-DAY.

You can enter contest at any time. Order the paper sent you for three months beginning with issue of day your order is received. Get in the contest right now. It is just becoming interesting. Don't miss a single picture. Get this paper every day.

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Daily and Sunday by carrier, 65c a month.  
Daily and Sunday by mail for three months, \$1.50.  
Price of paper per single copy: Daily, 2c; Sunday, 5c.

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